Patent Application No. 09/592,596
Amdt. Dated August 1, 2007
Reply to Office Action of June 1, 2007

Docket No. SAM1.PAU.67

REMARKS

Applicant hereby responds to the Final Office Action of June 1, 2007, in the above-referenced patent application. Claims 1-27 are pending in the above-referenced patent application.

Claims 1, 11, and 21 have been amended for clarification purposes. The amended limitation that "using said reference to communicate over the first network and/or the second network to access the associated information for the corresponding device" is inherently required by the claims in their un-amended form. Thus, no new matter has been added by way of these amendments and no new search is necessary. Accordingly, entry and favorable consideration of the claim amendments are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 16, 17, 19, 20, 21, 23, 24, 26 and 27 were provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over Claims 1, 6 and 11-13 of co-pending Application No. 09/592,598, in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,523,696 ("Saito"). The Examiner has again noted a Terminal Disclaimer filed by Applicant on June 10, 2005 to overcome the double patenting rejections, but has again maintained the rejections pending official decision by the Office Paralegal regarding acceptance of the Terminal Disclaimer. Applicant notes the Examiner's remarks in this regard, and requests an expedited processing of Applicant's previously filed Terminal Disclaimer.

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Claims 1-27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Saito (U.S. 6,523,696) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,133,847 ("Yang"). Rejection of the claims is respectfully traversed because, for at least the following reasons, the references, whether considered separately or in combination, do not show or suggest all of the claimed limitations.

The claimed invention is directed to user interfaces in a network. Independent claims 1, 11, and 21 each require, in part, that generating the user interface and utilizing the user interface involve at least two steps and two sets of information: (i) one step involves generating the user interface and is based on a first set of information, *i.e.*, the "obtained information," and (ii) another step involves utilizing the user interface by using a reference therein to "access" a second set of information, *i.e.*, the "associated information" stored in the corresponding device.

By contrast, Saito and Yang, whether considered separately or in combination, fail to show or suggest at least the above-mentioned limitations (i) and (ii). As the instant Office Action agrees, Saito does not disclose the above-mentioned limitations (i) and (ii). However, the Office Action relies on Yang to supply these limitations. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

The instant Office Action appears to interpret the claimed limitations differently from the clear and specific language of the claims. For example, the Office Action asserts that "in Yang,

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the remote 100 accesses the memory 120 in the remote 100 itself, not the appliances. However,

in the applicant's system still needs a memory or a cache to store the information of the

devices..." Applicant respectfully disagrees with such interpretation of the claimed limitations.

As noted, the claimed invention involves two distinct steps using two sets of information.

By contrast, in the system of Yang, *all* the information of the appliances is downloaded

beforehand as a *single set* of information, and such a single set of information is *stored in the*

remote itself. Specifically, in Yang when the remote 100 accesses the memory 120, the *same* set

of information is accessed in the memory 120.

Thus, the *downloading* of information to the memory in Yang is not the same as the

claimed "obtaining" information, the *accessing* memory of Yang is not the same as the claimed

"accessing the associated information stored in the corresponding device," and the downloaded

information in Yang is not equivalent to the claimed "obtained information" or the claimed

accessed "associated information." In Yang, all the information is stored in the memory of the

controller. By contrast, in the claimed invention one set of information is "stored in the

corresponding device," and is accessed in a second step. As further clarified through the claim

amendments, the claimed invention, because of the two-step procedure involving two sets of

information, inherently requires that when using the reference to access the associated

information stored in the corresponding device, it is necessary to "communicate over the first

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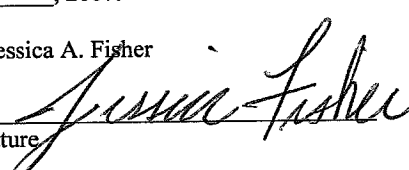network and/or the second network." Yang clearly also fails to show or suggest such limitations.

Thus, the rejection has been based on incorrectly interpreting the two-step process involving two sets of information of the claimed invention as the single-step process involving a single set of information in Yang.

In view of the above, Saito and Yang, whether considered separately or in combination, fail to show or suggest the claimed invention as recited in independent claims 1, 11, and 21 of the present application. Thus, independent claims 1, 11, and 21 of the present application are patentable over Saito and Yang for at least the reasons set forth above. Dependent claims 2-10, 12-20, and 22-27 are allowable for at least the same reasons. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-27 is respectfully requested.

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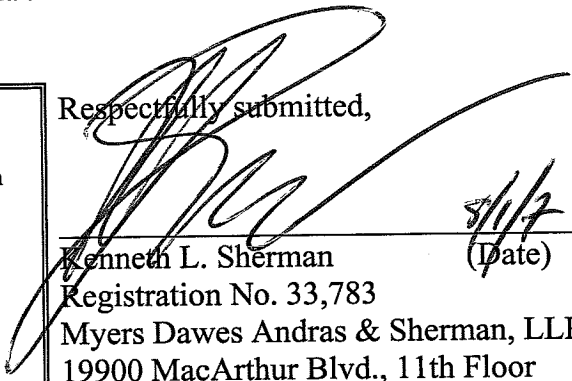Reply to Office Action of June 1, 2007

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CONCLUSION

For these and other reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of the claims should be withdrawn, and all of the claims be allowed. Accordingly, reexamination, reconsideration and allowance of all the claims are respectfully requested. If the Examiner feels that a telephone interview would be helpful to the further prosecution of this case, Applicants respectfully request that the undersigned attorney be contacted at the listed telephone number.

Please direct all correspondence to **Myers, Dawes Andras & Sherman, LLP**, 19900 MacArthur Blvd., 11th Floor, Irvine, California 92612.

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: MS AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on: August ___/___, 2007.

By: Jessica A. Fisher

Signature

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Respectfully submitted,

Kenneth L. Sherman   (Date)
Registration No. 33,783
Myers Dawes Andras & Sherman, LLP
19900 MacArthur Blvd., 11th Floor
Irvine, CA 92612
(949) 223-9600
(949) 223-9610 – Fax
Customer No.: 23386

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